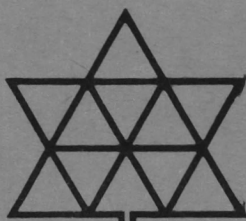


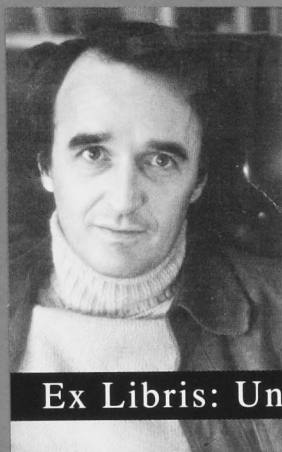
Baldur 4-H Beef Calf Club

FARM HISTORIES



1867 | 1967

Margaret Ingham



From the library of

Richard Spafford
Western Canadian Legacy Collection

Education is the progressive discovery of our own ignorance.
—Will Durant

Ex Libris: Universitatis Albertensis



HISTORY OF S.E. 10-6-14

The farm of John William Christopherson was homesteaded by his grandfather Sigurdur in 1880. The S.E. of 10-6-14 was the first land to be homesteaded in this Municipality by an Iclander. Sigurdur and his wife Caroline Taylor (first school teacher in the Icelandic settlement of Gimli) lived in a log house until 1896 when a house was built for them by Byring Hallgrimson. In 1904 a barn was built, the carpenter being A. Card and the stonemason Bob Cline. Sigurdur named his home "Grund" (flat ground) and in the early years it served as a post office and store. First mail and supplies were hauled from Millford and Stockton. Then, as the railway made its way to more towns, from Glenboro and finally Baldur. The post office was in use until the late 1920's.

Sigurdur was a member of the first municipal council and it was his wife Carrie who suggested the town be called "Baldur" for the Norse god of beauty. "Carrie Street" was named for her.

In 1905 Sigurdur and Carrie moved to the West Coast. Their eldest son John rented the farm until 1912 when he and his family also moved to Vancouver.

A second son, William Christopher (Bill) bought the farm and lived there with his wife Kristine (Stina) and son John William. Their elder son, Halldor, died in 1912.

Bill died in 1941 and Stina died in 1946. In 1933 John William married Laura Anderson of Wynyard, Sask.,

randdaughter of Skuli Arnason (Anderson) who homesteaded in the Bru district. They have two children: Donna: Married Norman Skardal - three children:

Stanley, Alan and Lauren.

Robert: Married Jeannine Dumont, Birch River, Man. - one daughter, Gabrielle.

- Stanley Skardal
(4H Member)

HISTORY OF N.E. 24-5-14

N.E. 24-5-14 owned by Christian A. Skardal was homesteaded in 1890 by Gudlaug Bjarnadottir, a widow who emigrated from Iceland with her three sons Jonas (father of Chris Helgason), Bjarni (Silver Bay) and Jon (Bru district; father of Helgi Helgason). She hired John Goodman (father of Thori Goodman, Baldur) to break the land for her. In 1900 she sold the farm to Thorlakur Jonasson, who lived there until 1905 or 1906 when he in turn sold it and moved south east of Baldur.

In 1917 John Trinder bought it and rented it to Frank Everett who lived there from 1917 - 1920. Frank Everett built onto the south side of the house and eventually added a summer kitchen and carriage house on the north side.

In 1921 Magnus J. Skardal bought it, then sold it to his eldest son Chris in 1923. At this time Chris also bought S.E. 24-5-14. This was homesteaded by William McKnight, who was a carpenter by trade. Later owned by Wellington Leslie (married Anna Kristjanson who sold it to Bjorn Bjornson (father of Arni) in 1900. Bjorn lived there until 1905 when he sold the farm to Bill Hawn. Bill Frederickson rented it for one year (1920), then George Cross bought it and was the last to live there. There are no buildings left.

Chris Skardal made his home on N.E. 24-5-14. He was born in Iceland in 1899 and came to Canada with his parents and sister Sigrun (Johnson) in 1902. In 1923 he married Una Johnson Bergsen (daughter of Johann Johnson, Sr.) They had two sons: Albert of Somerset, Man; Norman: married Donna Christopherson- 3 children, Stanley Alan and Lauren. Una died in 1934. Chris lives on the farm, renting it to Norman. Present barn built in two parts - 1955 and 1965.

Norman has bought three parcels of land: In 1962- the N. $\frac{1}{2}$ 23-5-14 and S.W. 23-5-14, homesteaded by Johannes Sigurdson; in 1898 sold to Marcus Johnson and later owned by Jack Johnson. In 1963- From Herb Clark, N.W. 24-5-14 - Bought by Sigurdur Skardal 1898 from Balfour; S.W. 24-5-14 bought by Sigurdur Skardal 1898 from Hannes Kristjanson who homesteaded it in 1893; (last quarter to be homesteaded by an Iclander here.)

In the fall of 1917, Siggi sold the two quarters to A.H. Strang who lived there until 1947 when Herb Clark bought it.

In 1966: South Half 30-5-13 from Oscar Josephson, first owned by Hosi Josephson, this land has remained in that family until Oscar sold it.

Thorfinnur Johannesson is believed to have been the last to live there from 1904 to 1912. The buildings are gone, but the basement hole marks the place where the house once stood. There was land broken at one time, but for many years this half section has served as pasture land. It has some very beautiful scenery and has a large lake well known to duck hunters.

-Stanley Skardal
(4H Member)

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HISTORY OF SECTION 16-4-14

In 1890 Alfred Wessels lived on the south-east quarter of 16-4-14. He had a good house made of oak logs with a shingled roof. Alex Lietch had the south west quarter about the same time; he lived in a two room house with one room made of logs and the other was frame.

In 1903 the Gillies Bros. bought the south half. The north-west quarter was homesteaded by Adam McBeth in the early 1880's. Later he bought the north-east quarter.

Rosehill School No. 90 was built in 1882 and later was replaced in 1902 on the north-east corner of the north-east quarter and was sold in 1961. In 1886 Henry Leslie bought the north-west quarter but never lived on it. In 1897 Steven Leslie bought the north-west quarter from his brother and the north-east quarter from the Scotch Land Co. In 1897 he built a two-storey house and in 1903 a barn. In 1918 Steven Leslie bought the south half of the section. In 1925 William Leslie bought the south half and built a house the same year and in 1927 he built a barn. On this farm was a good well, which in threshing time supplied two steam threshers with water. In 1961 it was sold to Tony DeKezel and the N. $\frac{1}{2}$ was taken over by Harry Leslie, 1948. This section was used over the years for grain farming and pasture and was situated five miles south and two miles west of Baldur.

HISTORY OF WEST HALF 23-5-13

The West Half of 23-5-13 is located two miles north and 3/4 miles west of Greenway. It is comprised of the West half of 23-5-13 and the northwest Quarter of Section 14-5-13. The quarter on which the Jones family lives is located on the southwest quarter of section 23. This quarter was homesteaded by A.W. Playfair in the early 1900's and the N.W. quarter was homesteaded at the same time by Mr. J.S. Conibear. The two men built a house right on the line between the two quarter sections and that was where they stayed for their required time. A.W. Playfair sold the southwest quarter to Mr. Conibear in the early 1900's.

In 1919, Art Conibear, after returning from overseas, took over this half section. Art Conibear built the first buildings on the location.

About 1925, Mr. and Mrs. Chris Vickers and sons rented this farm for a time. After John Vickers married, he rented the farm until moving to Brandon in 1935.

Tom Mowat bought this farm from Mr. Art Conibear in 1935. He lived at his own home and farmed it from there until 1937. From 1937 to 1939, Tom Mowat batched here. In 1939 he married Ruth Sofie and lived here until his death in 1954.

J. Scott rented this farm from 1954 to 1958. Clare Jones then rented the farm from 1958 to 1963. In 1963 he bought this farm from Mrs. Ruth Mowat and he and his family still reside there.

- Gordon Jones
(4H Member)

HISTORY OF SECTION 15-5-13

The farm in question is located 5 miles east of Baldur. Technically it is 15-5-13. It was homesteaded between 1885 and 1890 by Jack Playfair. At this time lots in town were around twenty dollars so it is easy to see that this amount of land would not cost very much in our terms today. In 1898 Jack moved to town and took over his father's furniture business and lumber yard. The farm was purchased by Jack's brother, George Jr. At this time cattle and wheat were raised. However they did not have big tractors and combines and so it was a lot of work to make in a harvest.

George Playfair eventually sold out to Herb Cunningham who in turn sold it to Bob Ramage. Not too many years later, a fire destroyed the stable. The house was then moved to Bob Ramages. The farm was rented for a time to Jim Stephen and also to Mr. DeSutter.

In 1947, Raymond Ramage, Bob's son, bought the farm and put up new buildings. He and his wife, Gwen and boys lived there until 1951 when they moved to Baldur.

Mr. and Mrs. W. Conibear were the next owners. However, that same fall, Mr. Conibear sold the north quarter to Donald Conibear.

W. Conibear sold his farm to George Ramage in the spring of 1964. The house was moved to Baldur. The farm is now being worked by George and son from Baldur, where they reside.

Wheat and cattle are still raised and are the major source of income. However, this land has several disadvantages, Located on a hill, washing is a serious problem, especially in the spring. Also there are many large boulders that are constantly breaking machinery. In spite of this, the land is fertile and very productive even though it has been worked for over 75 years.

- Donald Ramage
(4-H Member)

HISTORY OF EAST HALF 5-5-14

The first owner of the N.E. 5-5-14 according to the names on the Deed was H.J. Kelly in 1890; then there was A.M. Nanton, then M.H. Sexsmith.

My father, R.J. Gordon bought this quarter section from Mr. Sexsmith in 1898 and put in a crop while working from Mr. Sexsmith's. He then bought the S.E. quarter of the same section from the C.P.R. or C.N.R., I am not sure which, and built a house on it.

Mr. Gordon married in 1900 and raised a family of three. He built a barn in 1921 to replace the old stables.

Horses, cattle and pigs and poultry were raised on this farm, as well as grain, hay and a garden.

This is a farm that has never been hauled out. There are enough trees growing on it now to provide firewood, altho in the early 1900's there was very little except one big bush extending into the West Half of the Section. An old-timer told me that this bush had been burned out twice in the past, and I can remember gathering charred stumps for fuel when I was a child.

R.J. Gordon died in 1960; his son Stuart had been working the farm for a long time before that, and built a house for himself in 1946 and married in 1947 - they have four boys.

-Bessie Gordon

THE McLENNAN FAMILY FARM

Our farm (1-5-13) is situated one half mile east of the Hamlet of Greenway. Prior to April 19, 1916, when Donald McLennan, my grandfather, purchased the half section from Mr. A.W. Craik there had been no buildings on the home quarter. According to local pioneers, however, our land had several owners and owners before that date. Some of the remembered names include O'Rielly, Nicklin, Wm. Cornock (great-grandfather), and A.W. Craik. It is believed that the S.E. quarter had been homesteaded by Mr. Alonzo Emmy. Part of his building foundation is still visible in what is now pasture, and an authentic iron cooking pot lies rusting there, even yet, as proof of its existence.

My grandfather was one of a large Scottish immigrant family who had first lived in Ontario before settling in the Dry River District. In 1921, with the help of his twin brother, Duncan, he built the large barn which is presently in use. Except for a few modern additions for the sake of convenience, it is the same in outward appearance. Being a bachelor at this time, he moved the homesteader's shanty to this site and resided in it until 1923, when he had our present house constructed. To this home he brought his bride, Mildred Cornock, whose family farmed at Greenway. Together they planted the trees which shelter our buildings, and also landscaped the yard.

In this house, my father, Cameron McLennan was born. From the time he became a youth, he and grandfather worked together at this mixed farming enterprise, until he retired to town in 1953. The farm was enlarged then, with the purchase of an adjoining quarter section. This part of our land has a scenic lake which is a haven for wild ducks, supports a trap-line in winter and is advantageous for the raising of cattle. The remainder includes unbroken pasture, as well as good farming acreage. The railroad line cuts our land fairly close to the buildings. Tales are often told of the unemployed men who "rode the rods" during the depression, and found this an excellent "jumping off" point as the train slowed for the Greenway station. Food and shelter were given frequently to these unfortunates. Once, during the second war,

the edge of this farm was used as a camp site for
dratrooms. Needless to say, this was very exci-
ng for people of the area.

This farm has yielded a good living for members
of our family in the past. Of course, there were
the bad as well as the good years. Today the nearby
town has all but disappeared with the loss of its
railroad station and later its school. We cannot
foresee the future of our farm, but we are optimis-
tic in this Centennial year.

-Brent McLennan
(4-H Member)

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HISTORY OF SECTION 28-4-13

Mrs. T.J. Craig, Sr., with her family of one
daughter and two sons came to Manitoba from Port
Hope, Ontario and homesteaded the northeast quar-
ter of Section 28-4-13. She resided there until
her death in 1901.

James B. Craig, her older son, homesteaded the
northwest quarter of the same section and in 1884
married Jane Fallis and with their family of five
daughters lived there until in 1909, then moved to
aldur.

Mr. John Craig, the younger son, lived on the
southeast quarter of 30-4-13 after he married and
later moved back to the old home. In 1904 he
moved to Pilot Mound to run a livery stable until
the time of his death in June, 1928.

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HISTORY OF N.E. 2-5-13

This small farm, the N.E. 2-5-13, W.1st Meridian, was homesteaded by John Sandleus Robertson, who then received a Grant for same on March 3, 1882.

On Sept. 6th, 1889 he then sold it to Josiah Marshall Graham, who, five years later in 1894, turned over the Title to the Manitoba Land Improvement Co. They then, in turn, had the land subdivided; the acreage into lots, which make up the Village of Greenway and the remainder was left in acreage. Oldfield, Kirby and Gardner, acting agents, in July 15, 1920, sold 74 acres along the north side of the C.N.R. track extending north to No. 23 Highway to Andrew Young of Cypress River. He transferred the land to Mervin A. Young of Greenway in June 1921 and he has been the sole owner since then.

The farm was broken in the summer of 1921, partly by 4 horses and a single furrow 16" plow, and partly by a 30-60 Hart-Parr tractor on steel and two 4" braking plows operated by the late Tom and Leslie Todd, at the rate of \$6.00 per acre. The land at this time was mostly prairie sod - the rest was heavy brush and scrub. There were two trails running across the farm from the North East and North West corners. They led to the Grain Elevator which is adjacent to the farm. In the yard, where the land has never been broken, part of the trail from the N.E. corner is still visible.

There is one large stone in one of the fields, which the buffalo used to rub on. In 1921, the top of this stone was approximately 4 feet above the surface of the ground, but from working around it for 46 years, it is gradually being covered and today only about 18 inches shows above the ground. The stone is cracked and a thorn bush grows through the crack.

A barn was built and a well dug in the spring of 1921 and the house was built in the fall of 1922 by the late Charles Cuthbert of Glenora. Other improvements such as fencing and small buildings were added as time went on.

When we came here in 1921 our Village had a population of approximately fifty. The United Church (Presbyterian at that time) was built in 1914; a Community Hall and barn in 1921 and a one sheet curling and skating rink in 1927. These were all a very valuable part of our farming community.

-Mervin A. Young

WM. J. CORNOCK FARM

Greenway, Man.

Comprised of S.E. $\frac{1}{4}$ of 2-5-13 W. and S.W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 2-5-13

The S.E. Quarter

This was homesteaded by George Mills Johnson, whose Patent from the Crown is dated December 31, 1890.

Mr. Johnson was married to Mary Robertson, whose father, John S. Robertson, homesteaded the northeast quarter of the section, on which the Village of Greenway is situated. On obtaining his Crown Patent in January, 1886, Mr. Robertson returned to Ontario.

Mr. Robertson's log house stood on the ridge of land just to the west of the present Greenway Fair grounds. This was later taken down and re-erected as the Johnson home, adjoining the southern boundary of the Village townsite. Mr. Johnson had a lean-to added to the house, which Mr. Roger Brown, now living in Belmont, helped to build.

In 1895 a deal was completed, whereby Mr. Johnson and Mr. Wm. B. Cornock, of Glen Valley, B.C. traded their respective farms, of equal acreage, including also, livestock, poultry, implements and household effects.

The Cornock family arrived at Greenway the last of October, 1895, the Johnson family leaving immediately for Glen Valley, B.C.

Mr. Johnson had the Post Office, which Mr. Cornock carried on until it was moved into the Village in 1903. Mr. Johnson also had a small store in the house before Greenway started up on the coming of the railway, which began operating in 1890.

The district to the south was known as Ballyduff, (now Excelsior), the prairie trail from there into Greenway passing right by the door of the house.

It is bounded on the east by Provincial Road No. 42.

The S.W. Quarter

This quarter section had several registered owners. It was homesteaded by Harry Hammond, his Crown Patent being dated Sept. 21, 1886. This was followed by a Deed, dated June 9, 1887, in the name of Thomas W. Follis and Deed dated April 21, 1896, in the name of John Skirving Ewart. It was then

rchased by Wm. B. Cornock, his Deed to the land
ing dated Dec. 9, 1899. The log buildings that
d been erected have long since disappeared.

Wm. B. Cornock passed away in 1940, the present
ner, as of Deed dated Sept. 13, 1940, being his son,
. J. Cornock.

These two quarter sections comprise the present
lding of one half section of land, which is a mixed
rming operation.

The original buildings were of logs, as were many
those of the first settlers. As the most urgent
ed was a good granary, this was built in 1898,
e carpenter being Mr. Nelson Ramage.

In 1905 the barn was erected, the builder being
r. Wm. Tisdale, whose father, Mr. Wm. E. Tisdale,
as a member of the party that surveyed the local
ailway right-of-way in 1888, and who later lost
is life in a fierce blizzard that swept the district
arly in 1897.

In 1909 the brick house was built, the foreman
eing Mr. James Thom, who had recently come out from
cotland, his first employment in this country being
he erection of the T. Eaton Company store in Winni-
eg, which opened in the summer of 1905.

Other structures were built from time to time,
ncluding a large grain bin and utility building, the
ork being done by Mr. Angus Conibear.

In 1948 the buildings in the district were wired
or electricity, which was turned on in July of 1949,
roviding a most welcome convenience to country
iving.

PERCY J. CORNOCK FARM

Greenway, Man.

Comprised of S.E. 11-5-13 and S.W. 12-5-13 W.P.M.

The S.E. Quarter

This quarter was part of a School Section, which
was put up for sale, and purchased by Wm. B. Cornock
in 1900, the Patent from the Crown being dated Feb. 27,
1909. In 1935 it was deeded to Percy J. Cornock.

The S.W. Quarter

This quarter was homesteaded by Wm. Rowe Lewis,
his Patent from the Crown being dated Oct. 29, 1885.
It passed through the hands of several purchasers.

In September, 1901, Mr. Lewis deeded it to

. M. Fisher. In December, 1903, Mr. Fisher deeded it to Thos. L. Lawrence. In April, 1906, . Lawrence deede it to Mr. Wm. J. Wright. In ril, 1910, Mr. Wright deeded it to John Percy cknam. In November, 1910, Mr. Bucknam deeded it Francis G. Lewis. In December, 1917, Jane R. Lewis xecutrix) deeded it to Harvey Hayes. In November, 33 Harvey Hayes deeded it to Arthur Hayes and in 56 Percy J. Cornock obtained title to the quarter.

There was a log house on the property, which was ved in by the Scammell family in the middle nineties being a blacksmith. They then moved to Baldur ere they lived for a few years later moving to nnipeg. Since then there has been no one living the property. Provincial Road No. 342 passes etween these two quarter sections, and they are ounded on the south by Provincial Highway 20. 23.

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HISOTRY OF E. $\frac{1}{2}$ 12-5-13

This farm is located $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles northeast of Greenway, along No. 23 highway. Dave McMannus came out and homesteaded on this piece of land which consists of E. $\frac{1}{2}$ 12-5-13 in 1885 and stayed until the spring of 1904 when he sold to Frank Murdock, who farmed ere until 1920. In that year, Mr. Murdock sold out o Carboneau who farmed for awhile himself and then ented it to Mondor and later to Felix Levreault. arboneau lost the farm to the Great West Life Insurance Co. in the early part of the 1930's. Walter . Parsonage bought the farm from the Great West Co. n 1942 and farmed it until 1949, when his son Frank oughit it from him.

The buildings were located in the middle of this ection when first homesteaded; the old barn and a ranary still stand, but the old log house finally ell into the cellar and was burned.

In 1953 Frank bought Mrs. Sampson's house in reenway from her granddaughter Rosie Preston and oved it just up the Greenway hill, and located it n the South end of the farm, where he has re-esta- lished the farm buildings. We hand planted a shel- er belt in the spring of 1954 and this has grown very ell.

HISTORY OF S. HALF 36-4-13

The location of South Half 36-4-13 is one and half miles south and a half mile east of Green-

The S.E. quarter was homesteaded by Same Rowe, obtained this land by pre-emption. After fulfilling homesteading duties Mr. Rowe bought the hotel Killarney and rented the farm to Mr. Bill Wardman. Now Mr. Wardman was on the farm in 1897 because his wife tried to harvest while he was ill and neighbors helped at Charlotte's Bee".

In 1898 Adney Bros. rented from Sam Rowe. At that time the main part of the present dwelling was built onto the original log house.

In 1900 John McLennan was the next renter who leased the farm for one season from his home in Dryden. Mr. McLennan bought this land in February 1901 and moved here with his wife and ten children. When McLennan passed away in 1907 and Duncan his son, bought the farm in 1909 and owned it until he sold it to Celeste Desrochers in 1955. Celeste built the barn in 1964.

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HISTORY OF N.E. 36-4-13

The N.E. quarter of 36-4-13 was homesteaded by Lison Ramage in the early 1890's while he still did carpentry in Pilot Mound. Mr. Ramage walked from Pilot Mound each weekend to build the first house.

Jack Fallis was the first known owner on the N.E. 36-4-13. In February 1898 Mr. Peter Sinclair with his wife and family bought and moved here from Pestone. They had the present brick dwelling built in 1906. Mr. Sinclair passed away in September 1911 at which time Mr. Jim Craig helped with harvest operations.

George Stewart, a cousin of Mrs. Sinclair, rented the farm from 1912 to 1917. Duncan and Dan McLennan rented it in 1918 and 1919. In the fall of 1919 Mrs. Sinclair sold the farm to Mr. Harry Strang who installed a battery operated power plant which supplied electric lights and power washing machine in the 1920's. It was here that the three children were born, namely, Marguerite, Doris and Anne.

In October, 1940 after being completely hauled, sold livestock and equipment at which time El Lockerby rented the farm until 1945. In 1945, Mr. Sinais Desrochers purchased this property and still works it.

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HISTORY OF SECTION 31-4-12

The location of Section 31-4-12 is one and one-half miles south and one and one-half miles east of Greenway. Mr. O'Reilly bought this section in the early 1900's. Many animals pastured here and pioneers remember many threatening fires that swept this prairie section.

Using a gas tractor, Charlie Lumbers was hired in 1917 to break the sod and a shanty was built the same year for the O'Reilly sons to batch in.

Camille Walley with his wife and small daughter moved to this farm in 1921 and rented until 1941, when they moved to Winnipeg. It was while Walley's that the present house was erected.

Mr. & Mrs. Sinais Desrochers rented from 1941 - 1945 and their sons have rented since that time. Albert and family still rent it from the present owner, M. Lussier.

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HISTORY OF W. $\frac{1}{2}$ 22-4-13 and N.E. $\frac{1}{4}$ 21-4-13

The half of 22 was first homesteaded by Benjamin Gerolamy who came from Owen Sound, Ontario. When Benjamin Gerolamy homesteaded the N.E. $\frac{1}{4}$ of 21-4-13 he lived in a tent to fulfil the duties of a homesteader.

The house which still stands was moved to the N.W. quarter of 22 about 1890; the bank barn, still in use, was built in 1904. Bill Hilliard helped Mr. Gerolamy cut the stones for the barn foundation; with a stone hammer Geo. Stewart built the framework. This barn included a windmill which pumped water and crushed grain for many surrounding neighbors. Duffer helped his father through windy nights to complete this neighborly act. Duffer still has the saw that was used on the windmill to saw the winter's fuel. The windmill took the place of a horse powered crusher which Duffer drove a team on when only 4 years

He remembers a new pair of lines getting
ght in the gears of this machine causing the
y mishap of his career.

Tom Etsell and Charlie Lumbers built the gra-
y in 1910. It is still in good repair.

The first Gerolamy car was bought in 1914 when
eam of horses was traded to Mr. Bill Kilgour,
ord dealer in Greenway. This car replaced a
rey with a fringe on top which had been their
e of travel since 1900.

"Duffer" and "Joker", names which still iden-
y them were given to the Gerolamy boys by a
end of their mother, Mrs. Stevens and her son
d, long time owner of the Baldur Gazette.

A wagon trip to Mariapolis was a childhood trip
ffer remembers because his family bought an eight
r clock which is still "ticking" and has never
en to a jeweller.

The first Ford tractor was purchased in 1919
l was used with horses for farm power until 1950.
ring these years many cows were milked as part of
e family income.

Odiel Mestdagh rented from 1950 until he bought
. They erected a new house west of the barn in
64.

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HISTORY OF 17-5-13

This land is situated two miles east and two
les north of Baldur and was homesteaded by Hudson
one in 1897, who came from England in 1895 and
rked near Mariapolis and Dry River. During his
ay in this predominantly French settlement he
arned to read and write French as well as speak
.. A small frame shack provided shelter while
mesteading duties were fulfilled and only in 1961
uld it no longer remain intact and had to be torn
own.

The stable and granary which are still in use
re built by him as well as a new dwelling in 1909
o which he took his bride, Leila Smeaton, on Jan.
5, 1910.

Their three children were born on this farm,
amely, Bessie, Ruth and Jack.

In 1917 this farm was sold to Theophile Delichte
no in 1919 sold to Nester Cabernel.

August Mawas rented from this time until 1924 when Nester Cabernel took over himself until it was sold to Kidalley Lussier in 1926. Mr. Lussier died in 1928 when Cabernel again worked this land. Other renters were H. Desrochers, Louie Lussier, Morris Cabernel until Francois Lecoq bought in 1948, taking possession in 1949. The house was then moved to Mariapolis but not until 1960 did Francois sell to Edmond Moranda the present owner.

- Jack Stone

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RESIDENCE OF J. STONE

This is the history of the East half of 14-5-13 N.E. $\frac{1}{4}$ of 11-5-13 situated on Highway 342, two miles north of Greenway.

The first owner known was Mr. McKillop in the early 1890's. Mr. Frank Breault and family were renters in 1893 when Mabel, (Mrs. Harry Wilde) was born here. The dwelling at this time was a log one mile north and west of where the present house stands.

Mr. & Mrs. Spencer Percival were owners from 1904 to 1900. They had Mr. Nelson Ramage build the house and Mr. Frank Bateman helped on the barn during this time. The stable which had a windmill at the west end was a source of power for pumping water, husking and sawing wood.

At the turn of the century Thos. Wright Smeaton and family emigrated from Scotland to settle here, bringing with them many belongings, one of which was a grandfather clock, which is still in use.

It was my grandfather Thos. Smeaton who landscaped the yard, planted the trees and named this farm "The Woodlands". He bought the N.E. $\frac{1}{4}$ of the "School Section" 11-5-13 in 1907. After his death in 1909 his only son, John Burgh Smeaton farmed the land until he enlisted in World War I in November, 1914.

Mr. J. Goodine rented for a short time and was followed by Earnest Hurt from North Dakota who passed away here in August 1917. Mr. Hudson Stone, who married Leila Smeaton harvested the crop, sold his homestead and moved here as word had been received that John Smeaton had been killed in active

ice on April 9, 1917 at Vimy Ridge.

In 1931 we moved to Baldur at which time the farm rented to Desrochers Bros. for two years and to Ward Bunkle for one year.

On March 7th, 1934 we moved back and I have farmed land since that time. We used horses until 1945 when the first tractor was purchased.

The old stable which was now in ill repair was replaced in 1941. Carpenter J. Truelove was helped A. Conibear. Two rows of trees south and east of buildings were planted in 1958.

Shorthorn Cattle, Yorkshire pigs and grain have been the three main enterprises.

- Jack Stone

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HOME OF D.J. CONIBEAR

The History of the West half of 22-5-13, now owned by D.J. Conibear, goes back to the early 30's; when at that time the land was owned by J. Alguire. The buildings were then situated on a hill on the southwest corner of the section.

It was to this location that Mr. J.S. Conibear brought his family of four children from Ontario; Isabel (Mrs. Playfair), Arthur, Jen (Mrs. Gerolamy) and Angus. It was in this house that Walter Conibear was born. Two years later Mrs. Conibear passed away and the family returned to Ontario. The location of this home was also in the vicinity of where the last bear was reported to have been shot.

The land was then bought by a Mr. McPhee, who selected the main portion of the present house in the location where it stands today. He had borrowed the money to buy the land from Mr. Frank Schultz and was unable to repay it so Mr. Schultz foreclosed, therefore becoming the owner of the land.

Prior to bringing the family west Mr. Conibear had homesteaded the north-west quarter of Section 1, now owned by C. Jones. He then bought a quarter on section 9, south of the present Highway 23 and now owned by M. DeMeulinaire. In 1893 he traded this quarter for the northeast quarter of section 22, then owned by A.W. Playfair, to join the quarter he had homesteaded. At this time the family then

ned from Ontario to reside in the house now
pied by M. Tosh. His next purchase was the west
of 22, from Mr. Schultz. When Angus was married
btained this half from his father. Here he
ed his family of two girls and one boy - Donald,
vieve and Eleanor. Donald was born on this farm
he same house and has resided there all his life.

* * * * *

HISTORY OF S.W. 36-5-14

The Alli Sigvaldason home which is on the S.W.
5-14 was first known as the Cobbe farm. Joe
be homesteaded the farm and lived with his house
buildings close to the road. In 1913 he sold
farm to Frank Bateman and he had many tenants.
1926 he moved the buildings to the present loca-
n, building a new house and barn

In 1940 our father Alli Sigvaldason moved onto
farm.

Our grandfather's farm which is W. $\frac{1}{2}$ of 26-5-14
bought by him in 1888 when he came as a young
from Iceland. Our uncle, Halli Sigvaldason
all farms there.

Our mother's family home was the S.E. 20-5-14
ere she was born and raised. Her grandfather
ught it from Kristjan Olafson in 1885 or 1886
d it has been in the family since. Our uncle
ris Johnson still owns it.

- Robert and Brian Sigvaldason
(4-H Members)

HISTORY OF 24-4-13

Section 24-4-13, situated 3 miles south of Green- and one half mile east was homesteaded by A.W. ik. Mr. S. Dillabough bought it in 1906 when he e from Woodbay with his family. The Dillabough ily lived in a log house and attended Zephyr ool.

Mr. Landry (father of Adrien and Tony) was the t owner who rented the land to Fred and Hector rochers. It was during this time that fire de- oyed the log dwelling.

In 1928 Charlie Morin bought the farm, built a se and other buildings with the exception of the n.

Charlie brought a bride to his new home and all ir children were born here.

Mr. & Mrs. Morin sold in 1966 to the present er, Mr. L. Clearmont and now resides in Baldur.

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HISTORY OF N.E. 34-4-13

In 1879 Parker Follis came from Parkhill, Ontario d resided at Rockwood, Manitoba, near Stonewall, ter moving to the Greenway district and homesteaded e Northeast quarter of 34-4-13. He built a log use for his family (wife and two sons and five ughters. The house is still in use with some addi- ons added and is a modern home.

Before the turn of the Century he moved to Ladner C. His wife, two sons and one daughter accompanied n. The other daughters married and lived in the strict.

Mr. Geo. Sampson was the next owner and lived ere until it was sold to Mr. Fred Craik. Fred ught a windmill from Mr. Cornock and it still pumps ter for the stock. Confederation Life bought the rm in 1925 and it was rented to Bill Sampson until 31. Fred Craik and his family of six returned in e fall of 1933. Only in 1965 did Fred and Mrs. aik move to Greenway, when son D.J. married and ill resides on the farm.

1880-----1957

1880-81-89: An area from the Emerson Trail, the Red River on the East, American border on the South, the Assiniboine River on the North and extending to Western Canada opened for homesteading.

Icelandic settlers entered Argyle the winter of 1882 and by 1886 Argyle was almost fully settled by Icelandic people. There were other nationalities of Europe who came to find the promised land as the Icelandic people called Argyle and truly it has been a most beautiful promised land. It wasn't an easy venture to leave their own country and come to a new land with new customs. Some came with very little money, or no money other than their fare. Most lived in a log or sod house the first year or so, especially those who came late in the year.

1889: The Canadian National Railway reached Aldur in the year 1889.

Sigurdur Antonius was born in the eastern part of Iceland in 1850 and came to America in 1876, landing first in New Iceland or the Gimli area. Many settlers came to that destination and some moved to North Dakota or Saskatchewan after staying a few years in Gimli. Those first years were hard years with both a shortage of food and sickness, such as smallpox.

1878-79: Aigurdur spent working for a farmer in the West of Winnipeg along the Red River by the home of Henry Birk. In the fall of 1879 he came west to Argyle and homesteaded 22-5-14, spending time on the quarter section and working in Winnipeg in the winter.

1884: He married Anna Wilhelmina Willhjalmsdottir from Iceland who came to Canada with her mother Valdis Gudmundsdottir in 1874 and to Baldur in 1882. Sigurdur and his wife Anna Wilhelmina had five children:

Gudny, born 1885-1948	Mrs. Fred Joel
Svanhvit " 1895	Mrs. S.H. Anderson
Valdis " 1897	unmarried
Myrtle Anna 1899 - 1962	unmarried
Stigur 1890	married Maria M. Goodman

In 1899 Sigurdur lost his wife. In 1914 Sigurdur

up farming and his son Stigur took over the place where he lives to this day. He was died in 1917, and had a family of six children. There were two quarter sections of land, Sigurdur had purchased a quarter section of land, 27-5-14,

When this quarter of land was purchased there was no town of Baldur; in 1889 the town which is Baldur now was called Moropano.

1936: Albert Antonius, a son of Stigur, left school at 16 years of age then and took over the management of his father's farm. The land farmed was the old Homestead, 22-5-14; bought later were 27-5-14, E. $\frac{1}{2}$ 21-5-14, E. $\frac{1}{2}$ 27-5-14 and the land bought by Albert Antonius, N. $\frac{1}{2}$ 28-5-14, 1957.

In Icelandic, other references are Saga Islennga i Vesturheimi IV and Icelandic Canadian 1921-1930.

1892: I wish to mention with appreciation the memory of my father Stefan Gudmundson Goodman and mother Eyhildur Gudrun Einarsdottir to venture with 3 small children in the year 1892 to Canada so that we, their children and our children and grandchildren could grow up in this promised land, the land of Canada. (See Saga Islinga by G.J. Nelson (1951) -161.)

-Maria M. Antonius

HISTORY OF THE RAMAGE FARM

The N.E. of 10-5-13 situated on Highway 23, four and one-half miles east of Baldur was homesteaded in 1880 by Chris Cramer. The land was bought by Nels. Ramage in 1897 who had earlier homesteaded N.E. of 14-13 now owned by Sinais Desrochers. The present family dwelling was built by Nelson at the end of the 1890's. He had many horses and received prizes for these at the Winnipeg Industrial Fair of 1903.

The farm changed hands when Nelson's son Bob began to operate the farm in 1916. Earlier, in 1907 Bob travelled to Scotland when only 19 years of age to buy Clydedale horses and Shetland ponies. In 1916 Bob married Edith Parsonage and their honeymoon was spent in B.C.

During the 20's and 30's Hereford Cattle and
as were two thriving enterprises here.

Bob was the owner of one of the first electric
erators in the district which provided power for
nts in house and barn. It got its power from
wind which recharged the batteries.

In the early 20's Bob was one of the founders
the Greenway Agricultural Society which has
nsored the Greenway Fair ever since. When Bob
d in 1938 the farm, comprised of six quarters
run by his wife Edith with the help of her
s Raymond, Wallace, George and Ross and two
ghters, Isabel and Margaret.

The farm came into the hands of the present
er, Ross Ramage when his mother moved to Baldur
1952. Ross with the help of his wife Jean, his
r sons and daughter work the farm which is now
prised of three quarters on which are raised
at and oats that are mainly used as feed grain.
1955 the original barn by great grandfather Nels
converted into a two-storey laying house which
ds 3000 hens.

In 1961 the present herd of 70 purebred Angus
tle was started. A new farmyard shelter belt
s planted in 1963. As a Centennial project, re-
vating and remodelling of the original home is
ing done.

-Michael & Robbie Ramage
(4-H Members)

HISTORY OF N.W. 12-5-13

The N.W. quarter of 12-5-13 is located $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles
rth of Greenway on Highway 342. Charlie Morris
ned the land prior to 1912 when Bill Kilgour
e first Ford agent of Greenway bought it. In
is year Bill had George Farrendale of Cypress
ver build the barn and the house; with water-
rks in both, the house had conveniences seldom
joyed up to this time. Bill built the granary in
13 and it as well as the house are still in use.
e barn has been replaced in 1947 when the first
e was demolished in a wind storm.

Howard Kilgour took over in 1919 and farmed

until 1923 when he traded it with Jos. Mitchell a store in Winnipeg. Mr. & Mrs. Mitchell moved their two young daughters Wilma and June in year. They brought with them a beautiful upright piano which provided fine entertainment for during the years they farmed here. They sold and moved to Mission, B.C. in 1939.

Mr. & Mrs. W. Parsonage bought the land at this time and moved here with their family of four boys and two girls. Son Jack preferred actuary work but Al and Harry operate adjoining farms and Walt, the youngest son still works this land and specializes in fattening a large number of cattle each year.

* * * * *

THE MOWAT FARM

farm E. 23-5-13 situated three miles north of Greenway just west of Highway 342 was bought by Wm. Mowat in the early 1900's from C.P.R. Mr. Mowat who still operated a farm near Glenboro worked on the C.N.R. here when it was being built about 1900 so probably fancied this land as he travelled back to his Glenboro farm. A spring east of Greenway along the C.N.R. track provided water for the work and so they worked as far as possible each way from this water supply. Another item of interest Mr. Mowat was of the paymaster who drove a peppy team from Winnipeg to bring wages from the C.N.R. office to the men who laid the roadbed.

This farm had many "potholes" in the early days - the reason for it not being broken earlier. Mr. Mowat did break part of the farm while still living near Glenboro and built a new house here to which he moved his wife and small family in the early 1900's.

The first barn which burned in 1915, was replaced by a galvanized tank structure. This too, was burned in 1936. A larger barn was built that fall by J. Trueve and A. Conibear.

The youngest son, Wishart took over in 1937 after his marriage to Olive Porter. The house was remodelled in 1943. James Scott rented from Wishart in 1950 and the land was sold to J. Jansen in 1951 who farmed it until his sudden death. Garry and Mrs. Jansen carried on and Garry and his bride of 1967 will continue to farm.

HISTORY OF S.E. 35-4-13

Located two miles south of Greenway, West of way 342, this land was homesteaded by Benjamin tin and the big willow tree near the east fence a well known land mark. The first buildings e at this spot.

John Sampson from Glenboro owned this farm next Tom Kenyon rented and lived on this land from rtly after the turn of the Century to 1917.

In the spring of 1917 Ira Craik brought his de Cordelia Young to this farm and farmed here il 1925, when he sold to A.W. Craik. After s time Art Cardand son Walter farmed here until late 30's.

Wilfred Trottier was the next renter until his th, when Orrin McLennan rented for a short time.

Desrochers bought and rented to Amy Trudell. present owner, Urben Desrochers bought the farm has since remodelled the house and built a beau- ul big barn in 1966.

THE GODKIN FARM

The farm 25-4-13 is located 2 miles south of enway on 342 and $\frac{1}{2}$ mile east and $\frac{1}{2}$ mile south the buildings. John Godkin broke the land from irie. Chris Vickers who came from Scotland worked Mr. Dillabough just south of this farm and then moved here and with the help of brother Billie med it from 1913 to 1924.

Jack and Ernie Cole came next and rented until 27 from Mr. Frank Loree who married Maude Godkin. is farm had a granary which could be driven ough and grain unloaded at either side. It was ilt into bank making a driveway which could backed under, an easy way of loading in early ys.

Mr. Theodore Morin and family rented from 1927 1947; at such time the farm was sold to Eugene noit. His sons Tony and Amy built new houses d farmed here until Celeste Desrochers bought e East half and Isaac Fehr now owns the west lf.

HISTORY OF WEST HALF 11-5-13

This is the history of our farm, location West Sec. 11-5-13 in the Municipality of Argyle. Way No. 23 by-passes it on the south and west S.

This was a school section and the west half was up for sale in 1907. My great grandfather, Cornock, bought the southwest quarter and Sam le bought the northwest quarter. My great grandfather W.B. Cornock had this quarter until 1935 when old it to his son, C.W. Cornock. Sam Dowdle had northwest quarter until 1922 when he sold it to nephew, Jack Truelove. He farmed it until 1948 he sold it to my grandfather, C.W. Cornock. In C.W. Cornock sold the west half to his son, who y father, C.E. Cornock.

We mix farm; cattle, horses and pigs are raised grain is grown. We have found quite a few an stone hammers and on June 14, 1967, we found air amount of pemmican which must be quite old. beavers have had a few dams here in the past.

-Neil Cornock
(4-H Member)

FARM OF NORMAN SIGURDSON

The N.E. 12-6-14 was homesteaded in 1880 by annes Sigurdson (son of Sigurdur Bjarnason, li and Sigurbjorg Sigurdardottir, from Skuggargum (Shady Cliffs), Iceland) who immigrated to ada from Iceland in 1876 when he was 24 years . He first went to New Iceland (Gimli) where he ked on the construction of the C.P.R. Kristjan sson took up the homestead for him and Johannes e to Argyle in 1882. A one-room log house was lt north of where the present house stands and ved as temporary lodging for many Icelanders le their homes were being built (sometimes 3 or amilies lived there at one time). During these rs Johannes often stayed with nearby friends such the Andersons. He never married, and so it was t Sigurgeir Fridfinnsson (Frederickson) and his e Bergljot came to make their home with him. y had two children - Joe (owned a hardware store Glenboro) and Margret (Mrs. Paul Anderson, Glenboro)

Saturdays always found Bergljot and Margret baking anticipation of Sunday visitors -and there were y. At that time the road crossed the farm from N.E. corner, went directly past the house, then oss what is now the cemetery and on to the church. their way home from Sunday service, friends never led to stop for a friendly chat over coffee.

Bergljot died in 1917 and at Margaret's suggestion family donated money to the Ladies Aid for charitable purposes. Thus the "Blomsveigasjodur" or flower tribute fund was established.

In 1885 the first regular meeting of the "Icelandic Women's Society of Argyle" (later Grund Ladies) was held at this home in a newly built log garage (shingle roof)- considered to be the best building in the settlement at that time. (That roof is use today over the present garage) First topic s "How to raise money". A tombola was held Oct. 24, 85 at 4 p.m. Admission free, Draws 25¢, Lunch 10¢. Total net received was \$36.75. Expenses were : Groa for 2 doz. eggs - 25¢; To Johanna for raisins - 6¢; to Gudrun for Chicory - 10¢ and to Bjorn Joseph- n for damage to lumber - 75¢.

Approximately 1895 young Johannes K. Sigurdson came live with his uncle Johannes. His parents, Kristin and Johanna Sigurdson had homesteaded S.E. 12-6-14 and to this was added later S.W. 7-6-13. In 1901, Kristjan sold the farm to his brother Johnnes and moved to Markerville, Alberta with all his family except young Johannes K., who remained here with his uncle. When Johannes died in 1919, Johannes K. continued farming here on his own. The present house was built in 1903 - Barney Jonason, Carpenter. The barn was built in 1908 - Bob Thyme, Belmont, Stonemason.

In 1920 Kristin Helgason came as housekeeper. She brought her six year old nephew Sigurdur with her and was raised in that home. He is now Dr. Sigurdur Helgason, Plant Science Dept., University of Manitoba. Kristin left for Winnipeg in 1961 and now resides at Melville.

In 1961 Johannes K.'s nephew Norman Sigurdson, son of Christian and May Sigurdson) and wife Eila, had three children, Sherry, Douglas and Wanda arrived from Sylvan Lake, Alta. and took over the farm. Johannes K. lives with them. Today this farm consists of the following parcels of land: E. $\frac{1}{2}$ 12-6-14;

13-6-14, W. $\frac{1}{2}$ S.W. 7-6-13, bought from Eggert
er (brother of Albert Oliver, Bru) and S. $\frac{1}{2}$

32-5-13, homesteaded by Andress Helgason
inter & decorator in Baldur, later moved to Kan-
er, Sask.) In approximately 1890, two acres were
ted to the district to be used as a cemetery and
known today as the Grund Cemetery.

HISTORY OF THE FARM OF DOROTHY & HARRY PARSONAGE

This farm consists of three quarter sections
prised of the N.W. 24-5-13 and the E. $\frac{1}{2}$ 26-5-13.

ly ownership of the N.W. 24-5-13 is somewhat
uded as to whether it was homesteaded or pur-

sued as a pre-emption. The first registered

er was an English gentleman called Bertrand

ningham, who homesteaded the N.E. 24-5-13

bought a pre-emption on S.E. 25-5-13. How Ber-

Cunningham came to own the quarter in question

been lost in the annals of time. Information

hered from old timers indicates that Mr. Badinal

was in partnership with Oswald Lodge on S.W.

5-13 built a cabin and squatted on the N.W. $\frac{1}{4}$

some time. Mr. Badinal moved west and took up

omestead in Saskatchewan apparently without

ving up on this quarter.

In 1901 Elizabeth and Henry Parsonage of the
nboro district purchased the north half 24-5-13

S.E. 25-5-13 from Bertie Cunningham and took

idence there in that year. In 1901 there was

acres under cultivation N.W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 24-5-13 and 10 acres

the valley on N.E. 24-5-13. Henry and his young

Walter set out to carve a farm out of the 460

es of bush they had just purchased. With a dedi-

tion to industry and the help of grub hoes, oxen

horses by 1914 the farm had progressed remarkably

h 60 acres under cultivation on N.W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 24-5-13,

acres on N.E. $\frac{1}{4}$ 24-5-13 and 110 acres on S.E. $\frac{1}{4}$

5-13. They had purchased the S.W. $\frac{1}{4}$ of 25-5-13

l cleared 70 acres and had just bought the E. $\frac{1}{2}$

5-13 from The Hudson's Bay Company. They had

id out a beautiful plantation around their farm

ed and drew the stones in preparation for building

new home. They bought a new model T Ford car.

en tragedy struck.

The new car was delivered to the farm and after instruction as to its operation the dealer Henry took the car into the field to experiment with its operation. After a period of time felt confident of his ability to drive and set for town. At the turn at the foot of the lane car upset and Henry received a severe head injury. He died in a Winnipeg hospital a short time later. The age of the motor vehicle had indeed lived.

After Henry's death the farm was operated by widow Elizabeth with the help of her son Walter four daughters. Walter took over from his mother payments on E. $\frac{1}{2}$ 26-5-13. In 1922 when he married neighbor's daughter Lilian Lodge, his mother and married sisters moved into Baldur. Elizabeth deeded the N.W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 24-5-13 to her son Walter at this time.

The farm continued to flourish under Walter's wardship. Owning three quarters and renting three tracts from his mother, he continued in his father's footsteps and broke 80 acres on the E. $\frac{1}{2}$ 26-5-13. In 1918 Walter purchased the N. $\frac{1}{2}$ 25-5-13. By 1930 when depression hit, only a small mortgage remained on the N. $\frac{1}{2}$ 25-5-13 but it was enough and like thousands of other farms in the dirty thirties, the payments could not be met and the N. $\frac{1}{2}$ 25-5-13 was lost.

The black years of the great depression continued unabated. With a family of six small children, the struggle to keep them fed and clothed was most formidable. In 1938 Elizabeth, Walter's mother, was old to rest. Although it was her expressed desire that Walter should have the first chance to purchase the three quarters of land in her estate, he was unable to raise the money to do so. The South Half 25-5-13 and the N.E. 24-5-13 were sold to Harry and the Delichte of St. Alphonse. The proud dynasty started by Henry Parsonage and continued by his son Walter was tumbling down.

The measure of the worth of a man's courage is to get back up when he's down, and Walter Parsonage met the challenge. In 1939 he rented the South $\frac{1}{2}$ 13-5-13 and N.W. 21-5-13 and moved his family there. In 1940 he rented the East half of 12-5-13. The black days of the depression were beginning to lift for most, but not for Walter. In the early

ing of 1942 he lost his wife Lilian, leaving with a family of half grown youngsters. Now years old, but with 4 young sons behind him, the fall of '42 he bought the 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ sections which had rented from the Great West Life Assurance

But that's another farm and another story.

The N.W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 24-5-13 and the E. $\frac{1}{2}$ of 26-5-13 was med by Walter Parsonage and his four sons from ir home on 12-5-13. In 1949 his second son Harry, ried Dorothy Anderson of Baldur and moved back the family's old farm site. Harry purchased the ee quarters of land from his father and went to k. In 1949 the farm consisted of 210 acres of tivated land and 270 acres of bush. By 1966 the m boasted 450 acres of fruitful cultivated land, seed grain business and a feed lot of choice ttle, and last but not least a fine family of ht children. In 1966 history turned a full cir- e, for nestled in behind the beautiful plantation d out by Henry Parsonage sixty years before, the ily built their dream home.

This is a history of a farm and its tenants, but t of the history yet unwritten, yet un-lived. What s the future hold? Tremendous changes are rushing on us in the agricultural industry. The challenge feeding a hungry world is awesome. But whatever e need, whatever the task, if the challenge is cepted with the same industry and courage as that trayed by our forefathers, it shall be met.

HISTORY OF S. $\frac{1}{2}$ 24-5-13 & NW 13-5-13

This was the land known to old-timers as the dge Place. The S $\frac{1}{2}$ 24-5-13 was homesteaded in the ll of 1886 by Mr. Oswald Lodge and his partner, d Badinal. These two refined English gentlemen ined the reputation of being a pair of the most lorful homesteaders in this area. They gained this putation not so much by their diligence in proving on their homestead as they did for their extracur- ular activities. The tales of their escapades th exploding gunpowder in their new stove, chicken nting while the roof of Conibear's barn moved along

horizon, are legend and have been told and repeated along with countless others.

When not working on the homestead the two young men contracted well digging to gain some extra money. They found it required a little extra to support themselves in the manner to which they had become accustomed.

It is evident that Lodge and Badinal did considerable work along with their good times, for they lived up on their homestead and bought the S. W. 5-13 as their preemption in 1889 for \$3.00 and a fee.

In 1898 Lodge returned to England and married Regina Jessemin Rowland, daughter of Harry Rowland who was Lord Mayor of Wrexham, Wales. When Lodge returned with his bride, in the fall of '98 he brought out his partner Ted Badinal and set out to living in earnest in the style of a refined country gentleman. In 1899 their first child was born, a daughter, Lilian Jessica who grew up to become the wife of Walter Parsonage. It was at this time that young Lodge began to gain the reputation of matchmaker. Miss Lowe, a nurse who attended at the birth of his daughter, was present when Bertie Cunningham, who was homesteading on N.E. $\frac{1}{4}$ 24) dropped in. Bertie was so enchanted with nurse Lowe that he returned frequently to play pool with Lodge. Several evenings later by and by and Lodge noticed a large black handprint on the back side of Miss Lowe's spotless white uniform. Lodge who was quite aware of Bertie's averseness to water even to wash in, put two and two together. That night, while the billiard game was in progress in the basement, Lodge began to fortify Cunningham with some liquid courage and to suggest to him that he should propose to Miss Lowe. Bertie was reluctant. Lodge provided more courage. "Go on up and ask her right now, there's no time like the present." says Lodge.

"No, she would never have me."

"Here Bertie, where's your glass? Faint heart never won fair maiden."

"Oh, dam ya, Lodge, I will." Bertie disappeared up the stairs. About five minutes later Bertie's

d appears at the top of the stairs and cupping his hands around his mouth, Bertie whispers down,

"It's alright Oz, she says yes."

Another homesteader got his bride.

Lodge's family as well as his farm continued to grow. In 1907 he purchased the N.W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 13-5-13 from Frank Schultz of Baldur and continued farming for another 13 years. In 1920 Lodge moved to Baldur and ran a farm machinery business, renting the farm to his son Cynric for 3 years.

In 1923 the farm was sold to Verbrurges, who in turn rented it to Lorne McGillivray for 3 years. In 1926 the two Verbrurges brothers began farming it themselves.

Oswald Lodge died suddenly in 1927. Thus ended the career of one of the truly colorful pioneers of this district.

The Verbrurges brothers continued farming the Lodge place until 1931 when the depression caught up to them. They threw up the farm which reverted back to Mrs. Lodge, Oswald's widow. In the fall of 1931 Karl Roeges rented the farm from Mrs. Lodge. His stewardship lasted until 1938. In the fall of 1938 Mrs. Lodge rented her farm to Henry Lussier who operated it until 1942. It was then rented by Wishart for 6 years.

In 1946 Mrs. Lodge was laid to rest and with her passing went one of the truly exquisitely refined great ladies of the pioneer era.

In 1948 when Mrs. Lodge's estate was settled the farm was sold to Mr. Bissette of Somerset. The farm was rented from Mr. Bissette by two Ricard brothers from Mariapolis. In 1951 the farm was sold by Mr. Bissette to Ursulin Geirnaert of Mariapolis who along with the help of his sons, continue to farm it up to the present time.

HISTORY OF 4-5-13

Section 4-5-13 is located $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles East of Baldur on Highway 23 and one mile south. The North Half of 4 and S.E. of 9 were homesteaded by Mr. & Mrs. Irving Stratford in 1878. On Christmas Day in 1888 their home was destroyed by fire. This was immediately re-

lt in the New Year and this is the house where
& Mrs. Orval Breault now reside.

The South half of 4 was homesteaded by Mr. &
s. Walter Jackson in 1878. R.F. Breault bought
e farm from Jacksons in 1897. Mr. W.J. Parr and
ss Mary Graham Russell bought N. $\frac{1}{2}$ of 4 and S.E.
9 from Stratfords. In 1904 Mr. R.F. Breault
nted this farm from them until he died in 1927.
val and Stewart rented until 1948. Stewart left
farm West of Baldur. In 1951 Orval purchased
is farm and also S.E. of 9 and N.E. of 5 in 1959
om A.E. Bell. This quarter of 5 was originally
ned by Sam Bell.

When the Breault family lived on the S. $\frac{1}{2}$ of
c. 4, Edna, now Mrs. Frank Brown, then not quite
ree years old, slipped into a well which had be-
n to cave in. Mrs. Breault, alone at the house,
n to the field where Mr. Breault and their hired
n, Mr. Wessels were working. Mr. Wessels arrived
rst and making a slip knot on the end of a rope,
lowered it into the well telling Edna to slip
is over her head and around her. She was able
do this and was hauled to safety just before the
ll caved in completely.

S.W. 8-5-13 and S.E. 9-5-13

This farm was homesteaded in 1905 by Jack Strat-
ord. In 1909 Billy and Andrew Vickers moved there
d left in 1913. George Kelso lived there from
1913 to 1915. In 1916 it was farmed by Breaults and
n 1917 James Paddock moved there and in 1921 this
arm was bought by Ben Jones who remained there un-
il 1928.

In 1931 Joe DeSutter moved there and left in 1942.
ne farm was then rented by Breault Bros. and Webber
ros. from 1943-1945. It was bought by Stan Todd
n 1947. There is now 270 acres under cultivation.
pasture runs through S.W. 8-5-13 and a large dugout
as made. No one lives on this farm now. The house
as torn town in 1954. This farm is 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles west
f Greenway.

HISTORY OF N.W. 2-5-13

This quarter was homesteaded by Samuel Wilson received his patent from the Crown dated July 1885. It was sold to Francis Schultz on April 1905 and then sold again Aug 9, 1917 to Edmund Desrochers. The next record of sale is dated May 1949 when Dewie Trudell became the owner. The next record, 1949, Dewie Trudell sold the quarter to his son-in-law, Romeo Desrochers who purchased it through the Veterans Land Act. In May 1952 Romeo Desrochers sold to Stan Todd. Romeo had also acquired an adjoining 26 acre portion of N.E. 2-5-13, quarter section on which the village of Greenway is situated, from Jimmy Stephen. This he also sold to Stan Todd on that date, May, 1952.

Samuel Wilson left in the fall of 1905 to reside in the Pilot Mound district. One of his daughters married Alex Craik and continued to live in the Greenway district. The original log house built by Samuel Wilson burned in 1922. It presumably was built about 1882 or 1883 as the homesteader was required to live on the property and make improvements for 3 years prior to receiving his patent from the Crown.

Renters on N.W. 2-5-13 were Sam King from 1905 to 1909. Then Joe Desrochers, Edmo's brother, for a year; Henri Boron in 1920 for a year or two and Phil Desrochers during wartime in the 1940's.

The N.W. quarter of 2-5-13 is situated on No. 23 Highway just west of the Village of Greenway. The Village of Greenway is located on the quarter.

There was a buffalo wallow on spongy ground at the site of the nuisance ground, a one-acre property at the southwest corner of N.E. 2-5-13, donated to the Village of Greenway by Jimmy Stephen.

THE HISTORY OF THE PLAYFAIR FARM

SECTION 16-5-13

I will begin by saying I could not have given a very detailed record without the very able and co-operative efforts of Mrs. T.J. Harrison. Mrs. Harrison was the third daughter of Mr. & Mrs. A.W. Playfair, and was the first white child to be born on this farm. The two older daughters were born in Ontario.

.W. Playfair, his father, John Playfair and
l Dowdell came to Western Canada in search of
in the spring of 1880.

One of the first letters written back to my
r, still in Ontario" (quotes from Mrs. Harri-
record) "was dated May 30th, 1880, from Play-
Camp 16-5-13." These three men had arrived by
to Emerson, then by wagon, with all their
ment to Pilot Mound. From Pilot Mound they
lled northwest until they found (not the best
nd, as they discovered the speculators had al-
picked up the most promising sections) but they
ind land with plenty of wood and good water. In
letter the first P.O. is mentioned by the name
nton. This was changed to Ottenaw, (meaning
l encampment) in the early 80's after the log
e was built. This log house was also the P.O.
ttenaw, and operated by Mr. Playfair who also
e the mail, with horses to and from Pilot Mound.
continued until the C.N. Railway went through
area in 1890. The P.O. then moved and was re-
d Baldur.

In the fall of 1880 other members of the Play-
clan arrived, along with A.W.'s family. Ber-
, a brother of A.W.'s settled on the north east
ter of 16-5-13, and by the Spring of 1881 this
le settlement could boast of a population of 12.
Mr. Harrison relates some of the hardships the
ly endured, in the early years. The Indians
ered through the area in large bands and they
a frightening problem to the women folk if
men were away. The terrible loneliness and
h Manitoba winters were something to test the
est. When the first grain was sold the only
ry to be purchased was a pound of raisins for
ristmas pudding.

The Playfairs prospered on this farm as the
s went by and one by one the log buildings
e replaced by large frame structures. The
e house was built in 1894, by Mr. J.S. Coni-
, and Mr. John Playfair. In the stonework
the basement a glass jar was cemented in with
names of the builders and possible other data
losed. When the house was demolished in 1950

a jar was lost in the rubble. A few years later a large horse barn, and also some cattle barns were built. In 1902 a modern elevator was built, which operated (at first with a windmill) and later a gasoline engine from an adjoining building with a long line shaft to run the elevator, and grinder.

There was no detail of events from 1902 to 1912, some time in this interval Mr. & Mrs. Playfair moved to Baldur. For a few years previous to 1912 they operated the farm from town, with the help of hired men. In the spring of 1912 Mr. Playfair sold his farm (which had been enlarged to five quarters) to my father, D.W. Lockerby.

The family, mother and five children arrived by passenger train June 20th. Dad arrived later, much later, by freight, as he had a standard bred mare to ship in the same car as the furniture. There was no a rubber tired buggy, so the family could drive in style.

At the start of the school term in August the three older members of the family attended Wolseley school, which was formerly Ottenaw. The fall of 1912 was our first introduction to the steam threshing outfit. It was the outfit of Geo. M. Playfair, a real army of 16 men. The womenfolk prepared for quite some time in advance and the day they were to arrive, the outfit slid off a narrow grade south of the school, and it was about two days before they were able to get it back on the road again.

In 1913 Dad bought a threshing outfit, a real modern gas tractor, Case 20-40. The rear wheels were of six feet high and had extension rims, which made a wheel about two and a half feet wide. It had a top speed of about three and one half miles per hr.

In 1919 we bought our first car, a model T Ford touring with side curtains etc. It was the first Ford to come to Baldur with a self starter, - \$100 extra.

As the years went by the family grew and one by one passed from Wolseley school to the High School in Baldur and finally out to their various vocations.

I'll return for a brief moment to the log house, which we used as a chicken house. The front door had a slot in the centre of it to post letters. If it could talk, it would have a complete history of its

. It was a sort of inglorious ending to a memorable building.

I remember quite well the news of the start of First World War in 1914. Little did anyone know would last four long years. After the war the land boom, and prices soared, as wheat went up to 85 per bushel. In the matter of a few years wheat dropped and by 1932 it went down to 35¢. During these years from 1929 to 1940 the depression caused many farmers to abandon the land, as the sale of crops and livestock would not begin to pay taxes and interest on mortgages.

In July of 1931 tragedy struck our family, as our youngest son Leonard, was killed by a runaway team of horses, as they were unloading a load of hay in the barn, with hay slings.

In 1935 we had one of the wettest years on record and a wonderful crop of hay, but by early August rust struck the grain crops and about 90% of it never harvested.

From 1935 to 1940 we had average crops but prices were very low. Cattle and hog prices corresponding to grain, so that farming looked like a very poor business to be in. Unemployment was at an all time high so there was not much use looking for anything better.

November the 2nd, 1939 I married Marguerite Lang. We farmed at home for one year and then moved to the Strang farm, south of Greenway. The fall of 1941 Dad and Mother retired to Winnipeg and the farm was rented to Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Var Dench and their family of two children.

The fall of 1943 the farm was sold to Mr. A. DeGrouwe, and he rented it to Mr. Wm. Musick who farmed until the fall of 1945, when the DeGrouwe family moved there, and farmed it until 1963. The old frame house was demolished in 1950 and a new house was built on the same site. A double garage was built across the driveway from the house and yard.

In 1963 the farm was sold again to Mr. and Mrs. Mel DeMeulinaire, who are still farming it today. At this past week the elevator has been torn down and is to be replaced by steel bins.

This has brought the history of 16-5-13 up to date,

he best of our ability and we hope it will be of interest to the coming generations. The date this history was finalized was the 28th of June, 1967.

-Written by D.H. Lockerby-

HISTORY OF GREENWAY

The village of Greenway was named after the Hon. James Greenway who was premier of Manitoba at that time. It was founded in 1889, upon the coming of the railway. The right-of-way was surveyed in 1888, the road built by the Northern Pacific Railway Co. from Morris to Brandon in 1889, with the first trains running in 1890. The location of Greenway was decided upon by the Directors of the Railway Company, due to the fact that the grade to the east was so long that heavy trains had to be brought up in two sections, coming one on the siding and going back for the remaining section, as the locomotives of that day were not as powerful as those in later years.

The station, section house, water tank, powered by a windmill and elevator run by horsepower, built by Martin and Mitchell and operated by Thos. Irwin for several years, were constructed immediately. Martin & Mitchell operated a large farm at Lowe Farm and sold their elevator to the Northern Elevator Co., then to the United Grain Growers. A second elevator was built by the Dominion Elevator Company in 1898, the first operator being Thomas L. Lawrence. The only other operators before being moved to another location were Charlie Smith and Wm. B. Cornock.

The first station agent was Frank Eby, and the first section foreman was a Mr. O'Brian. The first store was built and opened early in 1890 by C.H. Charneau, who brought his supplies by team from Cypress Lake, some fourteen miles to the north. This store's contents were destroyed by fire, but another one was erected and sold to James Flett in 1893, which was later taken over by Percy F. Curtis, who discontinued the store in Greenway and moved the building to Baldur. (It was Mr. Curtis who strung wire and the telegraph poles to provide the first private

phone as a convenience while operating stores both Greenway and Baldur.)

As this move left Greenway without a store, B. Cornock opened a small one in the building which had been the Flett residence. This was later taken over by Peter A. McBean who later also acquired the Post Office from Wm. B. Cornock. From his hands the store then passed into those of A.W. Craik, who later also had a lumber and coal business. His father, John Craik, took over the operation of the store in the new building erected in 1909, which is now run by his son, Ira Craik.

In 1903 and 1904 the Railway constructed a branch from Greenway to Deloraine, known as the "Wakopa Line" which now operates to Neelin only, the balance having been abandoned. In 1908 telephone service first came to Greenway and surrounding district.

In 1910 the station and freight shed, with all contents were completely demolished by a fire set off by a train locomotive igniting the platform. The Bridge family were eating supper when they saw flames shoot by the window. The section house which had accomodation for fourteen men had been burned down several years earlier. A new station and also a section house were built immediately, both of which have recently been moved to other locations. The original water tank was burned down and a second one was erected and then replaced by a third one, which was powered by a gasoline motor.

The Greenway School District was organized and a school built in 1898 and opened on November 10 of that year. The first teacher was Miss Elizabeth K. Previous to that time the children of the district attended the original Excelsior School, located on the northeast corner of N.E. $\frac{1}{4}$ of Sec. 4-13, a mile and a half to the south.

In 1913 a Presbyterian church was built in the village, which was later incorporated into the United Church.

Up until the later years Greenway was a thriving village, and in addition to the businesses already mentioned, the first blacksmith shop was run by Perry Manning, which was taken over and operated for a number of years by Arthur Desrochers.

George Harbottle had a Massey Harris Implement
 cy in connection with his grocery store, which
 pened in 1911 and discontinued in 1919. Wm.
 ale had the International Implement Agency from
 to 1913, when he sold out to Wm. G. Kilgour
 built in 1914 an implement shed, containing also
 ol room, which he sold to George Stephen in 1915.
 r on the International Implement Agency was ac-
 ed by Arthur Desrochers, who ran it for several
 s.

A Community Hall was built in 1921, which was
 centre of many social activities, including
 es, masquerades, box socials, card parties, pub-
 meetings, and for displaying the Ladies Work ~
 onnection with the Greenway Summer Fair which
 been held continually for over forty years.

A curling rink was built in 1927 which was enjoyed
 the curling fraternity for many years.

In addition to the early town residents already
 tioned and to be remembered, are the heads of
 following families connected with the operation
 the railway:

<u>Agents</u>	<u>Section Crew</u>
es Flack	Robert Bradley
Whiteside	Dan Roy
Clarkin	Joseph Smith (foreman)
Brunsdon	Frank Smith
cles Cranston	Geo. Stanbridge (foreman)
Phelps	Alfred Marshall
lip Arnaud	Geo. Stoner (foreman)
l Helgason	James Wright
ert Tully	Eli Desrochers
Gillespie	Randy Fuglsang (foreman)
ert Coutts	Tom Vickers
Danker	Wm. Vickers
. Widdifield	Fred Jordan
in Cramer	

er early resident families were: Mr. Landon who
 rated a nearby farm, Sam King (retired), Mrs. Mary
 bes, boarding house, Bob and Mrs. Hindle, from Mis-
 ri, boarding house, Wm. Hanston, who walked from
 tage la Prairie to Greenway around 1890; Mrs.
 sy Sampson and daughter Olive; Mrs. Frank Mur-

and son John;
Simon Dillabough
Philander Johnson
Bert Johnson
Andrew Vickers, elevator agent
Alfred Day, retired
Archie Graham, retired
Angus Huffman
James Stephen, retired
Geo. Stephen
Mason Hedley, elevator agent
Mr. Ritchie, Rawleigh agent
Wm. Swayze, Rawleigh Agent
Wm. J. Young
George Craik
Edward Ruston
many others.

Upon the coming of the Railway and the opening
a Post Office, the Postmasters have been:
rge M. Johnson; Wm. B. Cornock; Peter A. McBean;
. Craik; James McLellan; Wm. Anderson; Mrs. Tom
ry) Vickers; Rendall Hedley; Mrs. Charles (Lucy)
toop.

We are grateful for the above history compiled
life long residents of Greenway, Stella, Clarence,
cy and Bill Cornock.

